

Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIE-00

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NESCO

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TAGS: AORG, OCON, UNESCO, US

SUBJECT: UNESCO 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE: US POSITION

ON 1975-76 PROVISIONAL BUDGETARY CEILING

REF: BUFFUM-UPTON TELCON 10/18

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE WILLIAM B. BUFFUM
FROM USDEL CHAIRMAN MILLER UPTON, ROSEMARY GINN,
STEVEN HESS, ARTHUR ROSS

1. SUMMARY: DEPARTMENT'S AUTHORIZATION OF FAVORABLE
VOTE ON PROVISIONAL BUDGETARY CEILING OF \$169.9 MILLION
IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED FOR VOTE TO BE TAKEN MORNING
OF OCTOBER 23. ABOVE IS COMPROMISE FIGURE REACHED BY
SPECIAL WORKING PARTY OF EXBD AND REPRESENTS SERIOUS
ECONOMY EFFORT. U.S. CONTRIBUTION FOR 1975-76 WOULD
RISE ONLY SLIGHTLY AND, IN LIGHT INFLATIONARY CIRCUM-
STANCES, CAN BE ACTUALLY CONSIDERED AS A REAL DECLINE.

2. A MAJOR CONSIDERATION IN OUR VIEW IS NEED FOR U.S.
TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO REAL ECONOMY EFFORTS AND CON-
CESSIONS BY UNESCO AND THEREBY DEMONSTRATE SPECIAL
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U.S. CONCERN FOR SUPPORTING NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL PRO-

POSED BY U.S. AND FIRST AFRICAN TO HAVE A MAJOR UN AGENCY. AFRICAN COUNTRIES HAVE ACCEPTED IN COMPROMISE A DECLINE IN GROWTH RATE FROM 8 PER CENT TO 3 PER CENT. FOBES ASSURES US THAT COMPROMISE ALLOWS FOR NO PROGRAM GROWTH AND THAT BUDGETARY PROCESS IS TIGHT, ALLOWING FOR NO WATER.

3. DELEGATS HAVE SPOKEN WITH SEVERAL OTHER DELEGATIONS AMONG WHICH AFRICANS HAVE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT US WOULD MODIFY ITS POSITION. IT SEEMS QUITE CLEAR THAT US POSITION ON THIS BUDGET WILL BE TAKEN AS A TRUE INDICATION OF US FEELINGS FOR UNESCO AS IT COMES UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF AN AFRICAN, A.M. M'BOW OF SENEGAL.

4. MOREOVER, AS THE PORTION OF THE BUDGET TO BE FINANCED FROM MEMBER STATE ASSESSMENTS COMES TO \$155 MILLION, THE US ASSESSMENT FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS COMBINED WOULD BE AROUND \$39 MILLION, AS COMPARED TO \$34 MILLION PAID IN BY THE US DURING THE CURRENT BIENNIUM, WHICH IN LIGHT OF INFLATIONARY MOVEMENTS COULD BE CONSIDERED AS A DECLINE IN REAL TERMS OF US CONTRIBUTION.

5. WE BELIEVE THAT THE US HAS MADE A STRONG, ENTIRELY ADEQUATE REPRESENTATION FOR THE RECORD OF ITS POSITION ON BUDGETARY MATTERS AND COULD NOW GAIN A GREAT DEAL BY DEMONSTRATING ITS WILLINGNESS TO COMPROMISE IN THE INTERESTS OF ALLOWING THE NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL TO GET OFF TO A GOOD START.

6. WEST GERMANY ABSTAINED ON BUDGET VOTE IN PRIOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. THEY WILL NOW VOTE FOR \$169 MILLION TO ABSTENTION. LIKELY THE FRENCH WILL DO THE SAME, LEAVING THE UNITED STATES THE ONLY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD VOTING NO. URGE YOU GRANT DELEGATION RIGHT TO VOTE YES.
IRWIN

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